

AFRECS

American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans

Annual Impact Report 2021



WELCOME

With your help, since 2005 AFRECS has been supporting the Episcopal Church of Sudan — and, since 2011, the Episcopal Church of South Sudan — in their pastoral and peacebuilding priorities. The explosive growth of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, which now features more than twice the Episcopal population of the United States, offers new opportunities to bring people to Christ and to focus efforts on reconciling the many ethnic groups that make up South Sudan. Dynamic new archbishops and bishops have been consecrated, and peacebuilding continues, particularly at the local level. Our flagship school for war orphans in the internally displaced persons camp near Juba has expanded to 500 students, and trauma healing programs attached to savings groups have expanded from Renk in the north to Terekeka in the south. The new campus in Rokon of the Episcopal University is taking shape. Thanks for helping us make this possible! We invite you to join us in providing expanded financial support for these important church initiatives and programs.

ABOUT US

AFRECS is an organization of individuals, churches and partners who care deeply about the struggles of the Sudanese people. Together we work for healing, peace, justice and a brighter future.

SOUTH SUDAN

COVID 19 continued to affect South Sudan in 2021, but the reopening of the schools in May, after a 14-month shutdown was warmly welcomed. More serious were a second year of floods which began in May, devastating Unity, Jonglei and Upper Nile states, and displacing over 600,000 people. The floods, plus repeated looting of food convoys and warehouses, have contributed to an expanding food security crisis in the country. By the end of the year the World Food Program was warning of looming starvation. Concerned people of faith may wish to contribute directly to the World Food Program at <https://secure.wfpusa.org>.

Politically, little progress was registered in meeting the guidelines of the 2018 peace agreement (the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan- R-ARCSS). Discontent led to the publication in August of a manifesto by the People's Coalition for Civic Action, calling for the resignation of both President Kiir and Vice President Machar. Several of the signatories were jailed, including a former acting governor of Northern Bahr al-Ghazal, generating strong international disapproval. Some remained in detention at year-end. Inter-communal violence in Unity, Jonglei, Eastern and Western Equatoria States continued, generating pessimism about the relevance of the agreement and about the possibilities of fair elections in 2023.

VISITS TO SOUTH SUDAN

Lawrence R. (Larry) Duffee joined the AFRECS Board as Treasurer in 2020. Larry works for IMA World Health as an international finance analyst. His South Sudanese wife Suzan has been working in Juba for the Rift Valley Institute. Larry traveled to South Sudan at the end of 2021 with their son, 3 1/2, to rejoin her and to carry out work for IMA, staying in Juba for about seven weeks. His was the first visit by an AFRECS Board member since early

2020. Despite continuing concerns about security, Larry found Juba streets teeming with life, along with lots of new construction, as residents attempt to resume a more normal existence. Inflation has made life difficult for ordinary citizens.

Executive Director Dane Smith and Board member James Hubbard are booked to visit Sudan and South Sudan in 2022, accompanied in South Sudan by Vice President Steven Miles.

SUDAN

In Sudan the transition to democratic elections was aborted by an October military coup which detained Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and much of his cabinet, generating massive protest demonstrations in different cities. The coup led to suspension of assistance by Western donors, the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, contributing to scarcity of consumer items and accelerating inflation. The political situation remained at an impasse at yearend. Violence remained muted, except in West Darfur where violence between Rizeigat Arabs and Masalit African groups intensified, leading to multiple killings and a new flight of refugees to Chad. The departure of UNAMID, the UN-African Union peacekeeping mission, contributed to destabilization in the region. Efforts by the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces commanded by Gen. Mohamed Dagalo (Hemedti), which include former Janjawit elements, did little to diminish the violence.



THE CHANGING SHAPE OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE SUDANS

Important changes occurred in the Episcopal Church of South Sudan. Joseph Atem Garang, the dynamic Bishop of Renk, was consecrated as Archbishop of Upper Nile, seeking to take up residence in unruly Malakal. Bishop Ogeno Charles Opoka, consecrated as Archbishop of Eastern Equatoria, has been coping with inter-communal violence which took the lives of his mother, brother and two nephews. Peter Garang Deng became Provincial Secretary in place of John Augustino Lumori. The provincial synod of the ECSS met in November, drawing 300 persons from 60 dioceses, concentrating on the theme, “Build the Church on a Strong Foundation.”

Worthy of note were ongoing church peace-building initiatives in South Sudan. Stephen Mayeun Mou, Coordinator of the Episcopal Justice Peace and Reconciliation Commission, facilitated a workshop in Renk in May,



Archbishop Ezekiel Kondo (ECSS)

followed by similar workshops in Bentiu, Bahr al-Ghazal, Upper Nile and Equatoria. In October Stephen Mou relocated to Wau to focus his peacebuilding efforts on Bahr al-Ghazal. In Ibba Diocese the ECSS sponsored a peace and reconciliation workshop which included local politicians. The ECSS participated in the work of the South Sudan Council of Churches which brought together warring Toposa, Buya, and Didinga groups



Archbishop Justin Badi Arama



Consecration of Bishop Ogeno Charles Opoka

in Eastern Equatoria and in Bor, Jonglei, mutually hostile Luo Nuer, Bor Dinka and Murle groups.

In the Episcopal Church of Sudan, Canon Fajak Avajani was consecrated as Assistant Bishop of Khartoum, to assist Primate Ezekiel Kondo in his local duties. In 2021 the ECS distributed food to the faithful in Kassala, Wad Medani, and Khartoum. A conclave of the bishops agreed to focus its efforts on training existing pastors and leaders of the Mothers’ Union, rather than creating new pastors. It will develop a modernized Arabic version of the Book of Common Prayer.



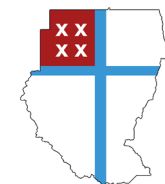
EXPANSION OF GLOW MAPS

One of AFRECS’ flagship projects, the Glow MAPS school for orphans and unaccompanied minors in a displaced persons camp 15 miles from Juba, has greatly expanded. Under the determined leadership of Episcopal Bishop John Gatteck, the school has grown from 50 in 2017 to 500 today. The latest increase — from 350 to 500 students, almost evenly divided between girls and boys — took place in the past year, aided enormously by a grant of \$12,500 from St. Margaret’s Episcopal of Annapolis MD. The grant paid for construction of new classrooms, salaries for new teachers, and the increased costs for the daily luncheon for additional students. Testing results document show student performance as among the highest in the region.



Completed Classroom

Bishop Gatteck has written, “By beginning and attending school, the boys were rescued from criminal activities and bad company which normally causes insecurity within and without the camp. The girls have been rescued from early marriage, early pregnancies and delivered to a life of hopefulness, empowerment and dignity.”





TRAUMA HEALING EXPANDS FROM RENK TO TEREKEKA

AFRECS' partnership with Five Talents on trauma healing spread from Renk in Upper Nile to Terekeka in Central Equatoria. Five Talents, a faith-based organization with programs in Asia, Latin America, and East and Central Africa, assembles separate savings groups of 10-20 women and young men. These groups are initially provided with literacy and numeracy training, as needed, together with instruction in micro-finance. As they graduate into savings groups, they mobilize their own savings into small business loans. Each group elects its own officers and makes its own rules.



AFRECS use as the basic trauma healing curriculum the American Bible Society manual, *Healing the Wounds of War*.

The instruction helps participants learn what trauma is, identify their symptoms, and "take their pain to the Cross," working with Biblical passages and rituals including lament, anger management, confession and forgiveness. In 2021 training was added for local clergy and community elders, solidifying local support for the project.

An impact survey in Renk of 244 participants indicated that over 50%, having come to understand trauma and its symptoms, reported they had adopted coping strategies and had improved family and community relationships. The program is paying important dividends!

Because members develop confidence in each other through their management of money, the groups become good platforms for trauma healing training. They learn to share their stories, a first step toward trauma mitigation. Five Talents and

EPISCOPAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH SUDAN

The Episcopal University entered an exciting new phase in 2021. The Primate, Archbishop Justin Badi Arama, has restructured the Board from one of vision (mostly bishops) to one of builders and teachers. These academics will guide the formation of educational programs, including the new Faculty of Law in Juba and the Faculty of Peace at the Rokon campus. During this phase the University will transition from a loose consortium of independent institutions to an integrated team of cooperating campuses.

A \$25,000 bequest to the University by the late Richard Parkins, previous AFRECS Executive Director, is being used to help finance the wells and water infrastructure at Rokon, a foundational part of the master plan for the new campus. In response to a request from the Primate, AFRECS forwarded \$10,000 for scholarships in 2021.



Photos (from top to bottom):

- A well-drilling rig breaks ground in Rokon.
- Ceremony for cornerstone of new university
- Athing Mu celebrates winning Olympic gold.

NEWS OF THE SUDANESE DIASPORA

Athing Mu, daughter of South Sudanese refugees, electrified the sports world by winning the gold medal in the 800-meter run in the Beijing Olympics and by anchoring the winning US team in the 4 x 400m relay. Rebecca Deng, a "Lost Girl," now living in Holland, Michigan, was celebrated for the story of her escape from Sudan, *What They Meant for Evil*. In late 2021 members of the South Sudanese diaspora in the U.S. raised \$4000 for flood relief in Upper Nile.



COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Despite COVID restrictions, AFRECS was able to carry on some outreach to interested congregations. At the invitation of Rector Rob Picken and former AFRECS Executive Director Nancy Frank, Executive Director Dane Smith paid a very satisfying September visit to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Rochester, NY, where he preached at both services and made a PowerPoint presentation at coffee hour. He also had consultations in Rochester with Lynn Malooley, President of Water for South Sudan, a sister organization. More extensive outreach to churches has been planned for 2022.

The E-Blast, AFRECS most important digital outreach to supporters and interested readers in America and Africa, includes news of the Sudanese churches, political and economic analysis, and human interest stories coming from church and lay leaders. Your contributions are always welcome (info@afrecs.org)! The E-Blast evolved into a monthly publication by the end of the year.

Please visit our website – <https://www.afrecs.org>

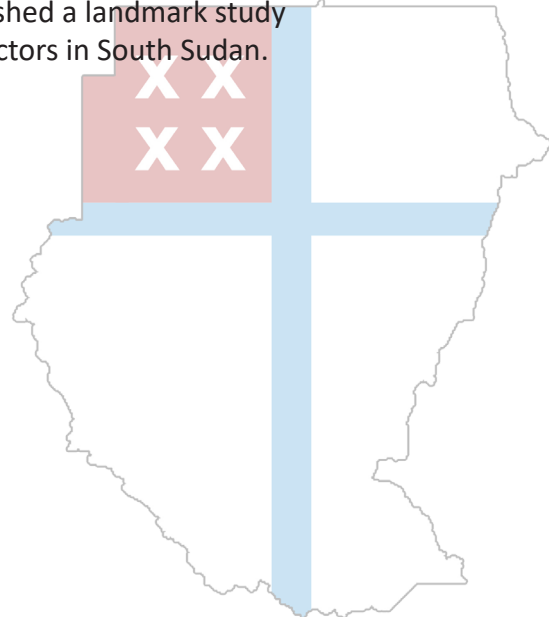
EXPANDING THE BOARD

In 2021 three persons joined the AFRECS Board. Dr. Ellen Davis, Amos Ragan Kearns Distinguished Professor of Bible and Practical Theology at Duke Divinity School, brings long experience of support for the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, including time teaching at Renk Theological College. Retired Suffragan Bishop David C. Jones was previously a member of the AFRECS Board and served as President from 2010 to 2016. Dr. Jacqueline (Jacki) Wilson worked for a decade at the U.S. Institute of Peace and has extensive peacebuilding experience in South Sudan, Sudan and elsewhere. She has published a landmark study on religious actors in South Sudan.



AFRECS BOARD MEMBERS

Philip H. Darrow, President
 Steven Miles, Vice President
 Anita Sanborn, Secretary
 Lawrence R. Duffee, Treasurer
 Frederick E. Gilbert, Assistant Treasurer
 Prof. Ellen F. Davis
 The Rev. Frederick Houghton
 The Rev. James Hubbard
 The Rev. David Jones
 The Rev. Richard Jones
 Bradshaw Langmaid, Jr.
 Prof. Rachel M. Scott
 Thomas H. Staal
 Dr. Jacqueline Wilson
 Dane F. Smith, Executive Director



FINANCIAL

AFRECS ASSETS

	Actual 12/31/20	Actual 12/31/21
Total Assets	46,149	57,636
Expenses		
Part I - Operations		
A. National Programs		
B. International Programs		
Orphan School	25,000	37,500
Trauma Healing	12,500	15,500
Episcopal University	5,000	10,000
COVID-19 Fund	3,195	-
Diocese of Athooch Relief	2,000	500
Diocese of Kadugli Support	6,203	-
Mother's Union - Diocese of Bor	-	2,500
Donation to Archbishop*	-	4,000
Other Activities	330	285
Total	54,228	70,285
Total Part I Operations	89,023	101,774
Part II - Administration	13,340	10,502
TOTAL EXPENSES	102,363	112,276
Part III - Revenue		
Individual Contributions	18,155	24,306
Institutional Contributions	6,496	20,442
Board Member Contributions	32,548	32,100
Total General Donations	57,199	76,848
Designated Donations		
Orphan School	13,500	24,000
Trauma Healing	12,800	5,500
Episcopal University	-	10,000
COVID-19 Fund	3,195	-
Richard Parkins Bequest	25,000	-
Diocese of Athooch	2,000	500
Diocese of Kadugli	6,203	-
Mother's Union - Diocese of Bor	-	\$2,500
Other Activities	-	4,416
Total	62,698	46,916
TOTAL REVENUE	119,897	123,764

*In memory of bishop Loyo

Form 990 can be viewed on our Guidestar Profile

OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

Champions (\$10,000 -)

Philip H. Darrow
Steven Miles
St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Annapolis MD

President's Circle (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Diocese of Virginia
Gadsden Foundation
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Arlington VA
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria VA
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Rochester NY
Dane & Judy Smith

Director's Circle (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Chevy Chase United Methodist Church, Chevy Chase MD
Church of the Good Samaritan, Knoxville TN
Ellen Davis
Diocese of Albany
Ray Gaebler
Fritz Gilbert
The Rev. Richard Houghton
The Rev. James Hubbard
The Rev. Richard Jones
Brad Langmaid
Robert Mackay
Glen Moller
Furman Parton
Kathleen Polk
Anita Sanborn
The Society of the Transfiguration
Tom Staal
Judy Thayer
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Napa CA
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria VA
Trinity Episcopal Church, Denison IA

Promoters (\$500-\$999)

Edward Caress
Christine Cheevers Jones

(Promoters Continued)

Brian D'Silva
Susan Eastman
Nancy Mott Frank
David Jenkins
Rick & Mary Lee Montfort
Nanci Pedulla & Dane Smith
E. Dan Smith
St. Francis Episcopal Church, Great Falls VA
James Yeates
Margie Zabriskie

Proponents (\$100-\$499)

Gwineth Clarkson
Colorado Episcopal Foundation
Ann Copp
Bill Davidson
Larry Duffee
Shirley Ellingson
Jennifer Ernst
Paula Fisher & Ivan Backer
Thomas Getz
Robert Gribbin
Ashley Hager
June & L. Michael Hager
Bob Houdek
Helen Perry Grimwood
Carey Harveycutter
Billy Kingery
Mary Ellen Kanoff
Micah Latimer-Dennis
Sherman Lewis
Mary Jane Mayerchak
Marian & Walter Moore
Jennifer Nazaire
Cathy Quinn
Jo & Ed Orser
Peter Peters
Nancy & John Pielemeier
Jennifer Pierce
Jean & Lucy-Lee Reed
Pat & Paul Renner
Nita Smith
Judi Yeates

Other Contributors

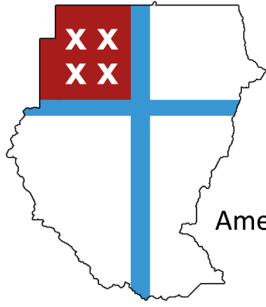
Marion Smith Alley
Amazon Smile Foundation
Stuart Arey
Aaron Aschenbrenner
Lillian Baer
Susan Bailey
Sally Ann Baynard
Rosemary Beales
James Boston
Charles Cecil
Katherine Chase
Nancy Chase
Jan Curtis
Mary Alice & Bob Gray
Suzanne Johnston
Chari Krenis
Greg Miller
Mary Candace Mize
Network for Good
David Oakland
Will Putz
Charles Twining
Katharine Wolpe

AFRECS Partners

- Chevy Chase United Methodist Church
- Christ Church Episcopal, Alexandria VA/Diocese of Renk
- Church Association for Sudan & South Sudan (CASS), Bath, UK
- Colorado Episcopal Foundation
- Diocese of Salisbury, UK
- Episcopal Churches of South Sudan & Sudan University Partnership (ECSSSUP)
- Episcopal Diocese of Chicago/Diocese of Renk
- Episcopal Diocese of Colorado
- Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia/Province of Sudan/Diocese of Bradford UK
- Episcopal Diocese of Virginia
- Episcopal Parish Network - EPN (previously CEEP)
- Episcopal Relief & Development
- Five Talents
- Global Partnerships & Mission Personnel, The Episcopal Church
- Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria VA
- Grace Episcopal Church, Lexington VA
- Society of the Transfiguration
- South Sudan Diaspora Network for Reconciliation & Peace (SSDNRP)
- St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Washington DC
- St. Athanasius Church, Brunswick GA
- St. Francis Episcopal Church, Great Falls VA/Diocese of Ezo
- St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Arlington VA
- St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Barrington IL/Diocese of Renk
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria VA

THANK YOU!





AFRECS

American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans

GIVE TO AFRECS!

Please help AFRECS expand its impact in 2022, as it grows its program in schooling for war orphans, trauma mitigation and theological education.

Give online at <https://afreecs.org>

or send a check to:

AFRECS
PO Box 3327
Alexandria VA 22302

AFRECS is a registered 501(c)(3) organization.

